	Classification of posts			
	'A'	'B'	'C'	'D'
Scheduled Castes	1	10	28	2
Scheduled Tribes	—	7	32	2
Total:,	1	17	60	4

(b) The vacancies are generally due to non availability of eligible/suitable SC/ ST candidate.

(c) and (d) The employee^ in the various offices under the Ministry are being given promotion keeping in view reservation quota for different categories subject to their being eligible for promotion. The details of promotions made during the year 1993, 1994 and 1995 are as given below:—

Year	Promotions made		
	General	SC	ST
1993	320	94	17
1994	314	69	24
1995	159	50	15
Total:	793	213	56

(e) Special recruitment drives were also launched, from time to time to fill up the backlog of reserved vacancies in accordance with the prescribed procedure and the provisions of rules.

Prior Permission for Inquiry against Ministers

3554. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pelased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister's Office had told the CBI to take prior permission of the Prime Minister before initiating inquiry against Ministers and Ex-Ministers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether, through such instructions, Government are trying to curb the role of CBI in investigating corruption at the top levels; and

(d) if so, the details of steps being taken by Government to impart greater autonomy to CBI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUB-RAMONIYAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise, in view of (a) above.

Time-Frame for Disposal of Appeals by Employees

3555. SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any prescribed time-frame for disposal of appeals and reviews preferred by employees against penalties imposed upon them;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUB-RAMONIYAN): (a) to (c) Though no time limit has been prescribed in the rules for disposal of appeals and reviews preferred by the employees against penalities imposed on them yet it is expected from the competent authorities that the appeals and reviews preferred by the employees should be considered expeditiously and a decision taken within a reasonable period of time.